

STRANGER THINGS

#407

THE MASSACRE AT HAWKINS LAB

As Hopper braces to battle a monster, Dustin dissects Vecna's motives - and decodes a message from beyond. El finds strength in a distant memory.

INT. LOVER'S LAKE – UPSIDE DOWN

Steve lies screaming on his back, struggling to defend himself from the Demobats as they try to eat and strangle him. One of the bat is hit away by Nancy, who has picked up an oar as a weapon. Robin and Eddie stand behind her, with Eddie holding the other oar. The Demobat scuttles away.

NANCY: Hey there.

Nancy hits the other Demobat away, and now it's just the one around Steve's neck.

NANCY (CONT'D): Quick! Hold it, Robin!

ROBIN: Here, I got it.

Robin steps on the Demobat's tail, holding it mostly still so Nancy can hit the shrieking Demobat.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Get it!

EDDIE: Kill it! Kill it!

Nancy keeps trying to stab the Demobat with the end of the oar. Shrieking in the sky alerts them to more Demobats heading their way.

EDDIE (CONT'D): Shit!

Eddie hits a Demobat as it flies towards him.

EDDIE (CONT'D): Yeah! Come on!

Eddie hits the Demobat again, making it sail over Robin's back as she helps hit the Demobat with the torch.

ROBIN: Nancy! Come on! Please!

EDDIE: Nancy, behind you! Watch out!

A Demobat flies towards Nancy and latches onto her back, making her yell.

ROBIN: Oh my God, Nance!

Robin runs over to Nancy and grabs the tail of the Demobat, trying to pull it off.

NANCY: Robin, get it off me!

Another Demobat flies towards them and goes to attack Nancy from the front.

EDDIE: Got it, got it, got it!

Eddie hits the Demobat, sending it flying and breaking the oar.

EDDIE (CONT'D): Goddamn it! Shit!

Steve manages to pull the Demobat's tail away from his neck slightly, biting into it.

ROBIN: Let go!

Steve holds onto the Demobat's tail as it tries to fly away.

STEVE: Come here!

EDDIE: No!

ROBIN: Get it!

Robin manages to pull the Demobat off Nancy's back and throws it down onto the ground.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Nancy!

Nancy grabs the oar and stabs it down into the Demobat.

NANCY: Go to hell!

Eddie fights with a Demobat that tries to circle him.

EDDIE: Come on, come on, come on, you son of a bitch!

Steve brings the Demobat down on the ground. Eddie's Demobat flies away.

EDDIE (CONT'D): I said come on! Let's go!

The Demobat circles back around, trying to attack Eddie but only succeeding in getting a mouthful of broken oar. Eddie pushes the Demobat onto the ground, pushing the oar further into its mouth before pulling it out again. Steve grunts as he hits the Demobat onto the ground, over and over. He brings the Demobat down hard, the Demobat now barely moving and softly screeching. Steve puts his foot below the Demobat's head and pulls at its tail, ripping it in two and throwing the tail half behind him. He pants and spits blood onto the ground. He looks a little out of it. Nancy walks towards him.

NANCY: Steve!

EDDIE: Jesus Christ.

NANCY: Steve, oh my God.

EDDIE: Jesus H. Christ!

Eddie throws his oar down.

NANCY: Are you okay?

Steve turns to face Nancy, looking down at his stomach, which is red and has visible flesh torn out.

STEVE: Well, they took about a pound of flesh.

Nancy checks Steve's back.

STEVE (CONT'D): But other than that, yeah, never better.

Robin kneels beside a dead Demobat, shining the torch on it.

ROBIN: Uh, do you think these bats have, like, rabies?

STEVE: What?

Robin stands up.

ROBIN: It's just that rabies are, like, my number one greatest fear. And I think we should probably get you to a doctor, like, really soon because once the symptoms set in, it's too late. You're already, like, dead.

Steve and Nancy stare at her. There's screeching in the sky, and they all turn to see a small group of Demobats flying towards them. The Demobats land around the glowing red Gate. Eddie and Robin run to stand behind Steve and Nancy.

STEVE: All right. There's not that many.

The Demobats screech at them.

STEVE (CONT'D): We can take 'em. Right?

There's more screeching in the sky, and the group looks up to see a swarm of Demobats flying towards them, silhouetted every so often by flashes of red lightning.

ROBIN: You were saying?

Nancy looks around.

NANCY: The woods. Come on.

Nancy turns and takes off running towards the woods, soon followed by Steve and Eddie. Robin looks reluctant.

ROBIN: Great. More running.

Robin takes off running after the others. They run towards the woods, doing their best to avoid the vines on the ground. As the camera pans upwards, we see a swarm of Demobats circling in the distance. A flash of bright red lightning lights up the sky.

Cut to black.

MAIN TITLES.

CHAPTER SEVEN: THE MASSACRE AT HAWKINS LAB.

INT. GOVERNMENT COMPOUND – ROOM

A soldier unlocks and opens a large metal box with heat lamps pointed at it. Wallace out and lands on the ground, panting. Sullivan kneels beside him.

SULLIVAN: How'd you sleep, Mr. Wallace?

Wallace wheezes.

SULLIVAN (CONT'D): Have you reconsidered your position? Where's the girl?

Wallace grits his teeth, breathing heavily.

SULLIVAN (CONT'D): Perhaps you need more time to think.

Sullivan looks at the soldiers, who pull Wallace up and start pushing him back to the box. Sullivan stands up and starts walking away.

SOLDIER: Let's go.

WALLACE: No, wait, wait. Please. Wait!

The soldiers stop pushing Wallace, but they still hold him tightly. Sullivan stops walking and turns around.

WALLACE (CONT'D): Please.

Sullivan walks towards Wallace.

WALLACE (CONT'D): Just don't kill her. Promise me you won't kill her.

Sullivan gives a small nod.

INT. NINA FACILITY – ROOM

Eleven sits at a table with an EEG on her head, trying to use her powers to crush a coke can. She strains.

Flashback to #401. The Rainbow Room. Dead kids line the room, blood spattered on the walls and floor.

Eleven pants. The coke can remains untouched.

INT. NINA FACILITY – NINA OBSERVATION ROOM

Brenner and Owens watch Eleven through the glass.

OWENS: We're running out of time here, Martin. Hawkins is running out of time.

BRENNER: I understand the stakes quite well.

OWENS: You know, sometimes I wonder if you really do. Or maybe you've just done all this cause you missed your daddy-daughter time.

Brenner gives Owens a look.

OWENS (CONT'D): I've given you everything you asked for. I've compromised my principles. I've risked my life, my family's life. All because you assured me this would work, that this was the only way. But I don't see any progress out there, Martin. You know what I see? I see a frightened, traumatised little girl. Good for us.

Owens walks away. Brenner watches Eleven as she keeps trying to crush the coke can.

BRENNER (O.S.): The truth is, you're regressing, Eleven.

INT. NINA FACILITY – ELEVEN'S ROOM

Eleven sits on her bed, looking at the floor. Brenner stands near the door.

BRENNER (CONT'D): You're going backwards. Eleven, look at me.

Eleven's eyes don't leave the floor. Brenner moves and sits next to her on the bed.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Look at me.

Eleven reluctantly looks at him.

BRENNER (CONT'D): I know you're frightened. You're terribly frightened by what you've seen. But it's this very fear that's now holding you back. If you want NINA to succeed, you cannot hide from the truth, no matter how frightening it may be.

Eleven starts to cry.

ELEVEN: I saw what I did. I am a monster.

BRENNER: You speak of monsters, superheroes. That's the stuff of myth and fairy tales. Reality, truth, is rarely so simple. People are not so easily defined. Only by facing all of ourselves, the good and the bad, can we become whole.

ELEVEN: What if I don't wanna become whole?

BRENNER: Then that is a choice. Your choice. The door is always open. This place is not a prison.

Brenner gently touches Eleven's forehead.

BRENNER (CONT'D): This is. You chose to trust me once. I'm asking you to trust me again. Journey with me into the past one last time. Stop hiding, Eleven.

A determined expression crosses Eleven's face. She looks at her NINA wetsuit hanging up.

INT. NINA FACILITY – NINA SILO

Eleven sits in a chair as a scientist preps her to be sedated. Owens stands next to her.

INT. NINA FACILITY – RECORDS ROOM

Brenner opens the door and turns the light on. He walks to a shelving unit and bends down to reach one of the lower shelves.

Flashback to #401. Outside Brenner's house. Brenner bends down and picks up the newspaper.

Flashback to #401. Brenner's lounge room. Brenner fixes his tie.

Flashback to #401. A Hawkins Lab hallway. Brenner walks with Ten.

Flashback to #401. A Hawkins Lab testing room. Brenner and Ten laugh.

Flashback to #401. A Hawkins Lab testing room. Ten looks distressed. An alarm starts wailing.

Flashback to #401. The Rainbow Room. Dead kids line the room, the walls and floor spattered with blood.

FLASHBACK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – DAY

Eleven turns around, her hospital gown smeared with blood. Blood drips from her eyes, nose, and ears.

BRENNER (CONT'D): What have you done?

INT. NINA FACILITY – RECORDS ROOM

Brenner pulls out the recording furthest along on the shelf.

INT. NINA FACILITY – NINA OBSERVATION ROOM

Brenner puts the tape in the player and presses play.

INT. NINA

Eleven lies on her back. The TVs turn on. Eleven slowly starts to pass out.

INT. NINA FACILITY – NINA OBSERVATION ROOM

Brenner and Owens watch Eleven on the monitors.

OWENS: How much time did you skip?

BRENNER: You wanted progress. I'm giving it to you.

Brenner walks away. Owens sighs.

INT. NINA

Eleven slowly starts to pass out.

Flashback to #401. The Rainbow Room. Dead kids line the room, the walls and floor spattered with blood.

Flashback to #401. The Rainbow Room. Eleven screams as she holds her arm out.

EXT. WHEELER HOUSE – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

Police cars are parked in the driveway.

POWELL (O.S.): And what exactly were you all doing at the lake?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Lucas, Dustin, and Max sit on a couch, looking uncomfortable. Powell sits on a chair in front of them. Callahan stands behind him, with two other police officers behind him. Ted and Karen sit on another couch, while Claudia, Sue, and Charles stand around the room. Erica stands in the corner of the room. Dustin, Max, and Lucas look at each other.

DUSTIN: Uh...it's comp-

MAX: We were...we were just going for a walk.

CALLAHAN: A walk? At 9:00pm?

DUSTIN: (squeakily) To the lake. We were gonna take a little swim. Little night swim.

CLAUDIA: Dusty. Someone was just murdered there.

DUSTIN: Yeah, we...we didn't realise that until we got there.

LUCAS: That's why we didn't swim.

KAREN: And Nancy, was she with you at this night swim?

MAX: No.

DUSTIN: Yes. Uh...

LUCAS: We're not sure.

Erica rolls her eyes.

DUSTIN: She was there. Then she left. It's all a little confusing.

LUCAS: And that's when you guys came.

MAX: Right. And then they dared me to say what I said.

LUCAS: Oh, yeah.

MAX: About the killer.

Lucas and Dustin start awkwardly laughing.

TED: You're lucky you didn't get shot.

Lucas and Dustin stop laughing. Dustin just nods awkwardly.

POWELL: Have you had any contact with Eddie?

DUSTIN: That psycho...freak killer? God, no. Nope.

MAX: No. We haven't heard from him in ages.

DUSTIN: Absolutely not.

LUCAS: We barely know the guy.

DUSTIN: Who?

Erica steps forward.

ERICA: Oh, that's a bunch of bull.

SUE and CHARLES (IN UNISON): Erica!

ERICA: I mean, you realise they're lying.

Lucas and Max stare at Erica with wide eyes while Dustin shakes his head.

ERICA (CONT'D): The whole couch is on fire.

SUE and CHARLES (IN UNISON): Erica.

ERICA: Just the facts.

CLAUDIA: Are you lying to these policemen, Dusty?

DUSTIN: (high-pitched) No.

CHARLES: Lying to the cops is a crime, son.

LUCAS: I'm not lying.

ERICA: The fire is consuming us.

Dustin stares at Erica with wide eyes.

TED: Threaten them with a little jail time. Maybe that'll loosen their lips.

DUSTIN: Okay-

SUE: You wanna send our kids to jail?

TED: We need to take this seriously.

KAREN: He didn't mean it like that.

Everyone starts to argue with each other, their voices overlapping. Max and Powell are the only ones who don't.

POWELL: Shut up.

MAX: Oh my God.

Powell stands up.

POWELL: Shut up!

Everyone stops arguing.

KAREN: Jesus.

CALLAHAN: Shh.

POWELL: We're gonna try a more civilised approach. One at a time.

Powell points at Max.

POWELL (CONT'D): You first.

MAX: Wait, what? Why me?

POWELL: Follow me.

Powell walks off.

MAX: I'm not even in the Hellfire Club.

CALLAHAN: Do I need to cuff you?

Max gives him a look.

CALLAHAN (CONT'D): Up. Chop-chop.

Max reluctantly stands up and follows Powell.

CALLAHAN (CONT'D): Let's go.

Callahan gives Lucas and Dustin a look before following Max and Powell.

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – SKULL ROCK – UPSIDE DOWN

Steve, Eddie, Robin, and Nancy crouch to hide under Skull Rock as screeching Demobats fly overhead. Soon the screeching dies down, the Demobats gone. They slowly crawl out from underneath Skull Rock.

ROBIN: Oh...okay. That was close.

EDDIE: Yeah. Too close.

Steve looks faint, stumbling and landing against one of the rocks.

STEVE: Oh, sh...shit.

Nancy turns around.

NANCY: Steve?

Nancy walks up to Steve.

NANCY (CONT'D): Jesus.

STEVE: I'm fine. I'm fine.

NANCY: No, no, no. You're not. You're losing blood.

Robin and Eddie turn around.

NANCY (CONT'D): Come on, sit, sit. All right?

Nancy helps Steve sit down. He lands on his knees with a grunt, hands on his stomach.

NANCY (CONT'D): All right.

Steve pulls his hand away, revealing bloody, missing skin.

ROBIN: Oh...

Nancy starts to tear the bottom of her shirt off as Robin kneels beside them. Steve pants and winces in pain.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Okay. Uh, so the good news here is that I'm pretty sure wooziness is not a common symptom of rabies. But, um, if you start having hallucinations or muscle spasms or you start feeling really aggressive, like you want to punch me or something, then you should totally let me know.

STEVE: Robin.

ROBIN: Yeah?

STEVE: I kinda wanna punch you.

Robin laughs.

ROBIN: Sense of humour's still intact. That's a good sign.

STEVE: Yeah.

Nancy finishes pulling the bottom of her shirt off and moves to put it on Steve's stomach.

ROBIN: Okay.

Robin stands up and walks away, while Eddie turns around. Steve pushes himself off the rock slightly, holding his arms up so that they're not in the way.

NANCY: Okay. You ready?

STEVE: Yeah. Just do it.

Nancy puts the shirt around Steve's stomach, making him stifle a groan of pain.

NANCY: Sorry.

STEVE: It's okay.

Nancy crosses the shirt over in the back and pulls it back to the front, pulling it tight. Steve grunts.

NANCY: Too tight?

STEVE: No, that's good.

NANCY: All right.

Steve slowly sits back down against the rock, grunting and panting as Nancy ties the shirt into a knot in the front.

NANCY (CONT'D): Okay.

STEVE: Thanks.

NANCY: Yeah.

Eddie climbs a large rock and looks out at the woods. Red lightning flashes.

EDDIE: So, uh...

Eddie turns around.

EDDIE (CONT'D): This place is like Hawkins, but with monsters and nasty shit?

Nancy helps Steve stand up.

NANCY: Pretty much.

Eddie nods and goes to climb down the rock.

NANCY (CONT'D): Wait, watch out for the vines. It's all a hive mind.

EDDIE: It's all a what?

STEVE: All the creepy crawlies around here, dude. They're, like, one or something. You step on a vine, you're stepping on a bat, you're stepping on Vecna.

EDDIE: Shit.

Eddie carefully starts to climb down, avoiding the vines.

ROBIN: But everything from our world is still here, right? Except people, obviously?

NANCY: As far as I understand it, yeah.

ROBIN: So, theoretically, we could go to the police station and steal guns and grenades and whatever we need to blow up those bat things that are guarding the Gate.

STEVE: Yeah, I highly doubt the Hawkins PD has grenades, Robin. But guns, yeah, sure.

NANCY: Well, we don't have to go all the way downtown for guns. I have guns in my bedroom.

Eddie jumps down from the rock.

EDDIE: You, Nancy Wheeler, have guns, plural, in your bedroom?

ROBIN: Full of surprises, isn't she?

NANCY: A Russian Makarov and a revolver.

Steve steps forward.

STEVE: Yeah, you almost shot me with that one.

NANCY: You almost deserved it.

Steve stumbles back when Eddie throws his vest in his face.

EDDIE: For your modesty, dude.

Steve makes a face. The ground starts shaking violently, sending them all off balance. Nancy falls into Steve, who holds onto the rock for support. Robin stumbles towards Eddie, who catches her, before the two of them fall to the ground.

ROBIN: Oh my God!

They all pant as the ground shakes. Slowly, the shaking dies down and stops. Loud screeching comes from beyond the woods.

EDDIE: Yeah, so guns seem like a pretty good idea to me.

ROBIN: Yeah, me too.

Nancy steps away from Steve, and he puts Eddie's vest on.

STEVE: So what are we waiting for?

Steve grabs the torch out and clicks it on, walking past Eddie and Robin and into the woods. Nancy follows him. Eddie and Robin stand up and follow.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Flood lights shine into the pit. Guards roam the level above, barbed wire curving over the sides of the pit.

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – CELL – NIGHT

Dimitri watches the guards. He discreetly nods at Hopper, who turns and rips part of his jacket lining out. He scrunches it up and puts it in his pocket before sitting on the bench.

DIMITRI: You know, what we are about to attempt is quite mad. Even by your standards, American.

HOPPER: Yeah? You got odds for us this time?

Dimitri scoffs. He moves towards Hopper.

DIMITRI: I think...

Dimitri sits next to Hopper.

DIMITRI (CONT'D): A thousand to one?

Hopper chuckles.

DIMITRI (CONT'D): Even if we somehow kill this beast, we still must escape. We fail there, I don't think they will be so kind as to throw us back in a cell. They will shoot us on sight.

HOPPER: We'd die as monster slayers. You'll be a legend.

DIMITRI: But still a traitor. You forgot traitor.

HOPPER: Monster slayer trumps traitor. I bet Mikhail will be proud of his pops, at least.

DIMITRI: Mikhail?

HOPPER: Hmm.

DIMITRI: No. I can't do nothing right with him anymore, it seems. He will say, 'Papa, I bet that bald American did most of the monster slaying'.

Hopper chuckles.

HOPPER: He's that age, huh?

DIMITRI: Yeah, he is that age. It is same for you, American? With your new daughter?

HOPPER: The last time I was with El, she wanted just about nothing to do with me. I was just in her way, really. I think back to the way I was with my dad at that age. I was the same way. The exact same way.

Hopper stands up and moves to look out at the Demogorgon pit.

HOPPER (CONT'D): It must be hardwired into us to reject our fathers. So we can grow and move on. Become something of our own. I hope that's what she's doing. Coming into her own. But still-

DIMITRI: You worry. To worry for our sons and daughters, that is natural, isn't it?

HOPPER: Yeah. But nothing about what El has had to deal with is natural. That beast, that monster in there, it's a part of something that wants to hurt El. To kill her.

Dimitri stands up and joins Hopper.

DIMITRI: I don't understand.

HOPPER: To be honest, neither do I. All I know is that thing...that thing shouldn't be here. It shouldn't be alive. Because it is, it means it still isn't over. I thought I was put here to pay for what I've done. But I might've been put here for some other reason. Maybe I...maybe I can still help El. Even if it's the last thing I do.

DIMITRI: You almost sound religious, American.

HOPPER: Religious? I don't know about that. But maybe I should give that prayer thing a try. Cause if we wanna get out of here, wanna get back to El and Mikhail, you and me...we're gonna need a miracle.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – PRISON BOOTH – NIGHT

. A guard is stationed on the roof. Yuri's van pulls up and honks. A booth guard opens the door and steps out, clicking his torch on and checking the licence plate on the front. He then walks up to the driver's side door, shining his light in Murray's face. Murray smiles, his beard shaven.

PRISON BOOTH GUARD: (in Russian) Can I help you, comrade?

MURRAY: My name is Yuri Ismaylov.

Murray holds out Yuri's passport. The guard takes it and opens it, before holding it up to compare the photo to Murray. They look similar enough that it doesn't cause much suspicion.

MURRAY (CONT'D): (with Russian accent) Hello.

Murray chuckles.

MURRAY (CONT'D): (in Russian) The warden is expecting me. I have a very special delivery for him. A rare import from America.

Murray laughs wheezily. The prison booth guard moves to check the back of the van through the side window. He shines his torch on the bound and gagged Joyce, then over at Yuri. Yuri wears Murray's clothes, cap, and glasses. He tries to yell at the guard through the window, but it only comes across as a prisoner being scared. Back in the driver's seat, Murray tries to calm himself down.

MURRAY (CONT'D): Okay, okay. I'm okay, I'm okay.

The prison booth guard bangs on the side of the van with his torch, making Murray jump. He shines his torch in Murray's face, who chuckles awkwardly. The guard gives him back Yuri's passport, then walks back into the booth and presses the button to open the gates. A buzzer sounds, and the gates slowly start to open. Once they're open enough, Murray starts driving down the road to the prison.

INT. NINA

Eleven lays on her back in the water, eyes moving side to side under her closed eyelids. The screens above her play a recording of her and Brenner in a hospital room in Hawkins Lab.

BRENNER (O.S.): Try your best not to blink.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – INFIRMARY – NINA GENERATED

Eleven sits on her bed, while Brenner sits in a chair in front of her. He moves a torch from eye to eye, checking for response to the light. He clicks the torch off.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Any more headaches? Nausea this morning?

Eleven shakes her head.

BRENNER (CONT'D): How about your memory? Can you remember what happened now?

Eleven shakes her head.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Perhaps someone else can help fill in the gaps. Yes?

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NINA GENERATED

Brenner holds Eleven's hand as he leads her down the hallway.

BRENNER (CONT'D)(O.S.): Good morning, children.

CHILDREN (O.S.): Good morning, Papa.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – ROOM – NINA GENERATED

The children stand against the wall, all wearing their grey sweats. Eleven stands in the row, wearing her hospital gown. Brenner stands in front of them. The friendly orderly and another orderly stand behind him, with the second orderly holding a collar behind his back.

BRENNER: Today's lesson is going to be about rules. Ah, for some of you, this may seem redundant. For others, it appears a refresher is required. Eleven, please step forward.

Eleven steps forward, keeping her head down.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Last night, your sister Eleven suffered a concussion during her alone time in the Rainbow Room. Now, she claims to not have a memory of what happened. But injuries of this nature don't simply happen. Someone did this. Someone in this room. Now, who's going to tell me what happened?

No one says anything. The younger children look worried.

TWO: She must've...fallen.

Three, Four, and Five try to hide smirks.

BRENNER: Fallen?

TWO: You've seen her, Papa. She's clumsy. Stupid.

Three, Four, and Five snicker slightly.

BRENNER: Eleven, you may step back.

Eleven steps back into the line.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Number Two, please step forward.

Two steps forward, his eyes showing the hint of fear.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Collar him.

The orderly pulls the collar from behind his back, stepping towards Two. He opens the collar, fastening it around Two's neck. Two looks scared. Brenner takes his jacket off as the orderly hands him the remote for the collar.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Thank you.

Brenner stands in front of Two.

BRENNER (CONT'D): You think because you demonstrate some talent that you're somehow immune to the rules, is that it?

TWO: No, Papa.

BRENNER: That the rules don't apply to you in the same way that they apply to your brothers and sisters?

TWO: No, Papa.

BRENNER: Then why did you attack Eleven?

TWO: Did she tell you that?

BRENNER: Are you asking the questions or am I? Did you attack Eleven?

TWO: If she told you that, then...then she's lying.

Brenner turns the dial on the remote higher. Two's breathing quickens.

TWO (CONT'D): Papa, please, you have to believe me. Papa, please. She's lying-

Brenner presses the button on the remote, which shocks Two. He groans in pain, dropping to his knees and putting his head on the floor. Eleven's eyes widen. Brenner stops.

BRENNER: Now, shall we try again?

Two looks up as Brenner ups the voltage on the remote.

BRENNER (CONT'D): What happened?

TWO: It was an accident.

Brenner presses the button again, shocking Two. He falls on his side, movements stifled as he jolts in pain. He wails loudly. Some of the younger children start to cry. Brenner ups the voltage, making Two wail louder. The friendly orderly averts his gaze. Eleven's breathing quickens as she watches with wide eyes.

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – UPSIDE DOWN

Steve, Eddie, Nancy, and Robin walk through the woods. Nancy and Robin walk at the back, with Eddie a few metres behind them. Steve walks a few feet behind Eddie.

ROBIN: Couldn't we have tried a road, or something just slightly less creepy?

NANCY: I think we're getting close. We're almost out of here. Don't worry.

STEVE: Eddie. Eddie.

Eddie turns, and Steve jogs to catch up with him.

STEVE (CONT'D): Hey, man. Uh...listen, I just, uh...I just want to say thanks. For saving my ass back there.

EDDIE: Shit. You saved your own ass, man. I mean, that was a real Ozzy move you pulled back there.

STEVE: Ozzy?

EDDIE: When you took a bite out of that bat.

Steve looks clueless.

EDDIE (CONT'D): Ozzy Osbourne? Black Sabbath? He bit a bat's head off onstage.

STEVE: I don't-

EDDIE: You know?

STEVE: No.

EDDIE: Doesn't matter. It's very metal, what you did. That's all I'm saying.

STEVE: Thanks.

EDDIE: Henderson told me you were a badass. Insisted on the matter, in fact.

STEVE: Wait, Henderson said that?

EDDIE: Oh yeah. Shit. Kid worships you, dude. Like, you have no idea. It's kinda annoying, to be honest.

Steve chuckles.

EDDIE (CONT'D): I don't even know why I care what that little shrimp thinks, but, uh, I guess I got a little jealous, Steve. I guess I couldn't accept the fact that Steve Harrington was actually a good dude. Rich parents, popular, chicks love him. Not a douche? No way, man. No way. That, like, flies in the face of all the laws in the universe and my own personal Munson doctrine. Still super jealous as hell, by the way.

STEVE: Great.

EDDIE: Which is why I would never have jumped into that lake to save your ass. Not under any, uh...normal circumstances.

A branch snaps, making them stop. A creature growls in the distance. After a few seconds, they start walking again.

EDDIE (CONT'D): Nope. Outside of D&D, I am no hero. I see danger and I just turn heel and run. Or at least that's what I've learned about myself this week.

STEVE: Give yourself a break, man.

Eddie stops walking, looking ahead at Nancy and Robin.

EDDIE: See?

Steve stops walking and faces Eddie.

EDDIE (CONT'D): The only reason I came in here was cause those ladies came in straight after you.

Steve looks at Nancy and Robin, who continue walking without realising the boys have trailed behind.

EDDIE (CONT'D): Now, I was too ashamed to be the one who stayed behind. But Wheeler right there, she didn't waste a second. Not one second. She just dove right in. Now, I don't know what happened between you two, but if I were you, I would get her back. Cause that was as unambiguous a sign of true love as these cynical eyes have ever seen.

The ground starts to shake violently, making Steve and Eddie stumble and try to catch their balance.

STEVE: Goddamn it!

EDDIE: Here we go again.

Further ahead, Nancy and Robin try to keep their balance as the earth shakes.

ROBIN: Okay, second on my list of least favourite things, earthquakes. Seriously, I am unsteady enough as it is.

Nancy pushes off a tree and starts walking away.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Nancy!

Robin stands up.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Where are you going?

EXT. HAWKINS WOODS – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy walks down a hill. She stops and stares at her house in the distance.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Nancy!

Robin, Steve, and Eddie run down the hill.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Nancy!

Robin, Steve, and Eddie stand behind Nancy.

NANCY: Come on.

Nancy starts walking towards her house. The others follow.

DUSTIN (ON SUPERCOMM): Steve, do you copy? Nancy? Robin?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – MAIN BATHROOM – NIGHT

Dustin sits on the closed toilet lid.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): This is Dustin. Where are you? We've been collared by the law. I repeat, we've been collared by the law. Do you copy?

There's no answer.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Shit!

Dustin flushes the toilet to make it seem like he actually went.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DOWNSTAIRS HALLWAY – NIGHT

Dustin opens the bathroom door and peeks his head out. The parents gather in the lounge room, talking to Daniels.

CHARLES: Should we get lawyers?

DANIELS: No, we're not ready for that yet.

Dustin starts down the hallway towards the kitchen.

DANIELS (CONT'D): As far as we know, nobody did anything wrong.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Dustin enters the kitchen, avoiding Holly with her Lite Brite as she leaves. Lucas leans on the counter.

CLAUDIA (O.S.): But what if they did do something wrong?

Dustin sets his Supercomm down on the counter and leans beside Lucas.

LUCAS: Anything?

DUSTIN: Nothing.

LUCAS: You don't think they went through...

DUSTIN: Through Watergate? Without us? Without a plan? Without weapons? They wouldn't be that stupid.

LUCAS: Yeah.

DUSTIN: They must just be laying low cause the law got us.

ERICA: 'The law'?

Lucas and Dustin look up to see Erica walk into the kitchen sipping a popper.

ERICA (CONT'D): What is this, Gunsmoke? The Stupid and the Ugly?

Erica leans on the counter.

ERICA (CONT'D): Should I round up the posse? Saddle the horses?

LUCAS: Erica. Please, just go away.

ERICA: Here's the deal. Either you tell me what's happening or I tell Dustin what I found under your bed.

Lucas' eyes widen slightly, and Dustin looks at Lucas with wide eyes.

LUCAS: Please, no.

ERICA: Spill your guts, cowpuncher.

DUSTIN: What'd she find under your bed?

LUCAS: Nothing.

Dustin looks at Erica.

DUSTIN: Is it gross?

Erica nods.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Scale of one to ten.

ERICA: A hundred.

Dustin looks at Lucas.

DUSTIN: A hundred?

LUCAS: The serial killer is a dark wizard from the Upside Down.

Erica starts sipping her popper again.

LUCAS (CONT'D): And we've been looking for him, but he's in the Upside Down, which we can't reach. At least we thought we couldn't, until we found a Gate at Lover's Lake. That was the reason why we were there, but these stupid cops grabbed us. And if you tell anyone about this, that's including Mum and Dad and Tina...especially Tina, I...

Erica finishes her popper and sets it down beside her, putting her chin in her hands.

LUCAS (CONT'D): Will smother you in your sleep. Do you understand?

ERICA: Hmm...

LUCAS: Erica? Do...you...copy?

ERICA: The smothering in my sleep part, but not much else. Why would they open up a Gate at Lover's Lake?

Erica's question seems to make Dustin's mind start whirring.

LUCAS: What?

ERICA: The commies.

LUCAS: The commies didn't do this.

ERICA: Then who did?

LUCAS: Nobody.

ERICA: So it just opened up for fun?

LUCAS: Erica, you have no idea what you're talking about.

DUSTIN: No, she doesn't, yet she raises an essential question. How did Watergate open up? Only two Gates have opened, so far as we know. One by El, one by the commies. But it's not the commies or El this time, so it...

Dustin has a realisation. He's silent for a few moments as the gears in his brain turn.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Holy shit. Wait, wait, wait, wait.

LUCAS: 'Wait, wait, wait, wait', what?

Dustin starts to move around the counter, behind Erica, to get to the other side.

DUSTIN: There's one thing we've never understood. Which is why Vecna's killing people. What's his motive? Killing teens? It always just seemed too random. Too prosaic. On top of that, how does the Mind Flayer figure into all this? Maybe this is it. This is the answer.

LUCAS: What is the answer?

Karen walks into the kitchen, followed by a police officer.

KAREN: You sure you just want water? We have Coke, Sprite, Dr. Pepper.

POLICE OFFICER: Coke works. Thank you.

Karen pulls a Coke from out of the fridge and hands it to the police officer. Dustin jerks his head back slightly, and Lucas and Erica follow him to the side of the stairs.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FOYER – NIGHT

DUSTIN: Okay, just hear me out. How did El open the Mothergate?

LUCAS: She contacted the Demogorgon.

DUSTIN: With psychic contact. Just like...

LUCAS: Vecna when he casts his spells.

DUSTIN: Exactly. So, what if, with each kill, he's not simply killing them, he's making a powerful psychic connection with his victims? A connection powerful enough to rip a hole in the fabric of time and space.

LUCAS: He's opening more Gates.

DUSTIN: Bingo.

The sound of a radio being clicked to transmit makes them look to the side, seeing Daniels walking from the lounge room into the foyer.

DANIELS: Copy. We're still at the Wheeler house.

Dustin gestures for Lucas and Erica to follow him. They head into the dining room.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – NIGHT

DUSTIN: Why would he be opening Gates?

LUCAS: To take over the world.

DUSTIN: Who do we know that wants to take over the world?

LUCAS: The Mind Flayer.

DUSTIN: So if the Demogorgon was just his foot soldier, Vecna's his five-star general. A five-star general with the power to open Gates.

LUCAS: Holy shit.

DUSTIN: Holy shit.

ERICA: Holy shit. That was incomprehensible. You lost me at 'Mothergate'. Please be kind. Rewind.

The light outside the front door starts to flicker, seen through the blinds. The camera moves past Erica and heads towards the door.

DUSTIN (O.S.): Okay, so remember the Gate?

ERICA (O.S.): Oh, no. I blocked that out.

Dustin says something indistinct.

ERICA (CONT'D)(O.S.): So what was that giant laser?

The camera gets right up to the blinds.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FOYER – UPSIDE DOWN

Vines cover the walls, floor, and ceiling. Nancy opens the door and walks in. Steve walks behind her, followed by Robin and then Eddie. Steve steps into the dining room, looking around.

ROBIN: Might be time to get a maid, Wheeler.

NANCY: Come on. I don't want to stay here longer than we have to.

Nancy walks up the stairs, followed by Robin and Eddie. Steve moves to follow them, getting halfway up the stairs before he hears Dustin speaking indistinctly. He stops and turns around, Dustin's voice continuing.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy opens her wardrobe and pulls down a shoebox. She walks and sets it down on her desk, opening it. Inside is tissue paper, which seems to confuse her. She pulls the tissue paper aside to reveal white, scratched heels.

EDDIE: Those aren't guns.

Nancy pulls the shoes and tissue paper out to look underneath.

ROBIN: These heels are a bit pointy, but I was hoping for something along the lines of a deadly projectile.

NANCY: I don't understand.

EDDIE: Maybe you left them somewhere else?

NANCY: There's a six-year-old in the house. I know where I keep my guns. And also, I threw these away years ago.

Nancy looks beside the box, seeing flashcards sitting on top of a chemistry textbook. The top card reads 'What defines the identity of an element?' in Nancy's script. She flicks through them, confused.

FLASHBACK – INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy and Steve sit on her bed, with Steve holding flashcards.

STEVE: Jesus. How many of these did you make?

NANCY: You said you wanted to help.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy flicks through the flashcards with increasing confusion.

ROBIN: I get that grades are important to you, but perhaps studying can wait till we get out of here?

NANCY: These are from sophomore chemistry.

Nancy looks up.

NANCY (CONT'D): And this...this wallpaper, this is old wallpaper.

Nancy walks over to a mirror.

NANCY (CONT'D): And this mirror, this went to a yard sale.

Nancy turns around.

NANCY (CONT'D): And you...

Nancy picks up a stuffed animal from her bed.

NANCY (CONT'D): You're not supposed to be here. No, I gave you to Cousin Joanna two years ago.

Nancy walks around her bed. She spots her diary on the bedside table and picks it up, flipping through it. The last entry is dated November 6, 1983.

EDDIE: What is it?

Nancy doesn't answer.

ROBIN: Nancy? You're freaking me out.

NANCY: I think the reason that my guns aren't here is because they don't exist yet.

EDDIE: They don't...exist?

Nancy turns around.

NANCY: This diary should be full of entries. It's not. The last entry is November 6, 1983. The day Will went missing. The day the Gate opened. We're in the past.

Eddie and Robin look at each other.

STEVE (O.S.): Dustin! Dustin!

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FOYER – UPSIDE DOWN

Robin, Nancy, and Eddie run down the stairs, hurrying towards the dining room.

STEVE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Dustin! Can you hear me? Dustin!

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

The trio round the corner to see Steve aimlessly looking around.

STEVE (CONT'D): Du-hello? Hel...hello.

The trio stare at Steve.

ROBIN: Maybe he does have rabies.

STEVE: Hello! Hello?

NANCY: Steve, what are you doing?

Steve turns to look at them, shining his torch in their faces.

STEVE: Hello!

The trio shield their eyes. Steve walks up to them.

STEVE (CONT'D): He's here. Henderson. That little shit, he's here. He's like...he's in the walls or something. Just listen.

They listen for Dustin, but don't hear him.

STEVE (CONT'D): Dustin. Dustin! Dustin!

Steve turns around and starts aimlessly searching. The trio stare at him.

STEVE (CONT'D): Dustin! Dustin! Can you hear me?

The trio tries to listen. Nancy starts to hear him.

DUSTIN (O.S.): That brings us to the question you first raised.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – KITCHEN – NIGHT

Lucas and Erica sit at the kitchen table while Dustin paces in front of them.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): How and why is there a Gate at Lover's Lake? Let's analyse. What do Eleven and Vecna have in common?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – KITCHEN – UPSIDE DOWN

The group all search for Dustin in the area around the kitchen table.

NANCY: Dustin!

Eddie checks behind a curtain.

EDDIE: Dustin?

ROBIN: Dustin!

Dustin continues indistinctly.

STEVE: All right, either this kid can't hear us or he's being a total douchebag.

NANCY: Will found a way.

STEVE: What?

NANCY: Will. He found a way to speak to Joyce through the lights.

Nancy walks over to a nearby lamp and tries to turn it on, but nothing happens.

STEVE: Lights?

NANCY: Yeah.

Steve points to the light switch on the wall near the lamp.

STEVE: The switch. Try the switch.

NANCY: Okay.

Nancy flicks the switch multiple times. Steve turns and looks at the ceiling light. It starts to shimmer and glow.

STEVE: Guys? You seeing this?

The light flickers faintly, a shimmer in the air around it. Dustin's voice continues faintly. Nancy and Steve walk to stand below the light, while Eddie and Robin stay in the doorway. Nancy reaches her hand up and puts it into the shimmers, which glow orange at her touch.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – NIGHT

The lights near where Nancy's hand touches the shimmers in the Upside Down glow brighter.

DUSTIN: ...to open a tear in time and space, just like the Mothergate.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy runs her hand through the shimmers, mesmerised. Robin and Eddie walk forward.

EDDIE: Whoa.

DUSTIN (O.S.): ...are these like the Mothergate...

Nancy pulls her hand out of the shimmers.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – NIGHT

The light dims to its normal brightness.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): But a Gate nonetheless.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Steve reaches up and puts his hand in the simmers, the light glowing brighter. Eddie puts his hand in the shimmers, then Robin, and then Nancy again. They all look mesmerised as the shimmers glow orange at their touch.

STEVE: It...tickles.

ROBIN: It kinda feels good.

Eddie chuckles with a grin. Nancy pulls her hand down.

NANCY: Does anyone know Morse code?

The others pull their hands down.

ROBIN and STEVE (IN UNISON): No.

EDDIE: Wait, does SOS count? Is that...is that good?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – NIGHT

Erica notices the light in the dining room glowing and dimming.

DUSTIN: So our working theory is that Vecna makes remote contact from his attic. We don't know why. We assume he can do it from anywhere.

Dustin sits down and stares at Erica when he realises she's not paying attention.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Are you even listening to me?

ERICA: Yeah, I'm listening.

Erica stands up and moves to stand in the doorway between the kitchen and the dining room.

ERICA (CONT'D): It's just...you said you followed Vecna through lights, right?

DUSTIN: Yeah, why?

ERICA: Because I think he's here.

Dustin and Lucas look up, finally seeing the lights. They both stand up and move to join Erica.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Eddie puts his hand in the shimmers in rhythm to spell SOS.

ROBIN: It's working.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – DINING ROOM – NIGHT

Dustin slowly walks towards the lights, realising it's Morse code.

DUSTIN: 'S'. 'O'. 'S'. Hey, uh, remember when I said they wouldn't be stupid enough to go through Watergate?

LUCAS: Yeah?

Dustin turns around.

DUSTIN: I overestimated them.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – NIGHT

The wind whips through the air.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – ROOM – NIGHT

Murray, Joyce, and Yuri wait in a room for the warden to arrive. Yuri jumps up and down in an attempt to look out the window.

MURRAY: Warden, beautiful prison you got here. How about this? Huh?

Murray pulls a pistol out of his pocket and aims it forward.

MURRAY (CONT'D): How about that? Huh? Huh?

Joyce groans behind her gag, shaking her head.

MURRAY (CONT'D): That's what I thought, yeah.

Murray turns around and begins the practice again.

MURRAY (CONT'D): Warden.

Murray holds out his hand.

MURRAY (CONT'D): So nice to meet you. Uh, I'm Yuri, of course, but allow me to introduce you to my very-

Murray pulls the pistol out of his pocket, accidentally dropping it and sending it skidding along the floor.

MURRAY (CONT'D): Shit.

JOYCE: (muffled) Murray!

Murray walks up to Joyce and tries to pull the gag down.

MURRAY: I'm sorry.

Murray fumbles with the gag but manages to pull it down.

MURRAY (CONT'D): What?

JOYCE: Can you please stop playing with that thing?

MURRAY: I am not playing. I am practicing. And will you please stop trying to talk to me and stay in character? Remember, you are frightened, scared, confused.

JOYCE: Yes, I am frightened, scared, and-

Murray puts the gag back in Joyce's mouth.

MURRAY: Okay. All right. Yes. Good.

The door opens and the warden walks in, followed by a guard. He walks up to Murray.

WARDEN: Yuri Ismaylov.

Murray laughs and walks towards the warden. Yuri tries to yell through his gag.

WARDEN (CONT'D): (in Russian) At last, we meet.

Murray salutes with a chuckle.

MURRAY: (in Russian) Comrade Major.

The warden looks at Yuri.

WARDEN: (in Russian) This is the Bauman spy?

The warden walks up to Yuri, who continues to try and yell through his gag.

WARDEN (CONT'D): (in Russian) He looks different.

MURRAY: (in Russian) Uglier in person, I know. He also shaved his beard to disguise himself. Tricky bastard.

Murray slaps Yuri, knocking him to the ground. Yuri moans.

MURRAY (CONT'D): (with Russian accent) Silence, American scum! Enough from you. Enough!

Murray turns around and laughs wheezily. The warden looks at Joyce.

WARDEN: (in Russian) Now this one...

The warden walks up to Joyce. Yuri pushes himself up to a sitting position on the bed against the wall.

WARDEN (CONT'D): (in Russian) This one I would recognise a continent away. She was more beautiful in her uniform, but still, quite striking, isn't she?

MURRAY: (in Russian) Yes, very pleasing to the eyes, comrade. But not so pleasing to the ears, I am afraid.

Murray pulls Joyce's gag down.

JOYCE: Where is he? What have you done with Hopper, you vile commie pig?

MURRAY: (in Russian) As I said...

Murray puts Joyce's gag back in her mouth.

MURRAY (CONT'D): (in Russian) Unpleasant. But, I must say, I, too, am curious. The other American. What did you do with him? I don't know why, but I imagine him on a rack, in the cold, stretched thin, birds pecking his eyeballs. Am I...close?

Murray chuckles.

WARDEN: (in Russian) I have heard stories of Yuri Ismaylov, the Peanut Butter Smuggler. And you...you are not the Yuri I have heard of.

Murray's smile fades.

MURRAY: (in Russian) I am...I am not?

WARDEN: (in Russian) No. No. The Yuri I was told of has a screw loose. And you...have many screws loose!

The warden laughs. Murray starts laughing as well. The guard in the room starts laughing. Yuri tries to yell through his gag again.

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT CONTROL ROOM – DAY

The warden opens the door and leads Murray inside, followed by Joyce and Yuri. The guards inside stand at attention as the warden walks in.

WARDEN (CONT'D): (in Russian) I hope we have not missed the show.

GUARD: (in Russian) On the contrary, just in time.

Yuri tries to yell at the guards through his gag, but the guard from earlier pushes him forward with a yell.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

The warden leads Murray, Joyce, and Yuri out onto the landing around the pit. They look down into the pit, where the prisoners kneel in a line on the ground. A few guards stand watch. Ivan holds up a key.

IVAN: (in Russian) This key here will give you access to that weapons locker. Choose any weapon you like.

Joyce catches sight of Hopper, and her breathing quickens.

IVAN (CONT'D): (in Russian) Work together or alone.

Murray turns to the warden.

MURRAY: (in Russian) What...what is happening?

WARDEN: (in Russian) They are being told the rules.

MURRAY: (in Russian) Rules for what?

WARDEN: (in Russian) I could tell you...but that would spoil the fun, now, wouldn't it?

Murray chuckles. He turns back to look at the prisoners, looking nervous.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

IVAN: (in Russian) You wait for the buzzer. You wait. You move before the buzzer...you will be shot. Is that understood? Is that understood?

PRISONERS: (in Russian) Yes.

Ivan nods. He looks up at the warden, registers Murray, Joyce, and Yuri beside him, and looks at Hopper with a slight smirk.

IVAN: (in Russian) I'd wish you luck but it won't help you.

Ivan drops the key in the snow. He and the other guards walk towards the exit.

DIMITRI: Let us hope your prayers have been heard, American.

The Demogorgon snarls, making all of the prisoners turn their heads to look at the doors. The Demogorgon can be heard pounding on the door, trying to get out. Joyce whimpers, knowing what the sound is.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven kneels in front of the Plinko board, watching as a disc falls and lands in a slot. She pulls all of the discs out of the slots to go again. Sensing someone watching her, she turns to find Five standing behind a desk, glaring at her and breathing heavily. She looks to see Three and Four sitting on the couches near the door, glaring at her. They stare at her as they use their powers to move the metal balls in the maze in the table in front of them. The balls hit each other, and Eleven gasps, dropping the Plinko discs. She quickly picks them up. When she goes to grab the last one, the friendly orderly grabs it just before she can.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: Are you open for something a little more challenging?

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven and the friendly orderly sit at a table, playing chess.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Try not to show any emotion as I speak, okay? Just keep playing the game if you understand.

Eleven moves a chess piece. The game continues.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Two is still in the infirmary recovering. He's being watched now, but once he is released, he and the others are going to attempt to kill you. Right here, in this room. And Papa will allow it to happen. In fact, he wants it to happen. He's been planning it for some time now.

Eleven breathes shakily.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Stay calm. Focus on the game.

Eleven moves a chess piece. The game continues.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): There's a reason why Two and the others were able to escape their room last night. Why the security cameras were turned off. Why Papa punished Two today. They don't even realise it, but he is moving them like pieces on this board here. Driving them to do exactly what he wants, which is...

The friendly orderly moves a chess piece, taking one of Eleven's.

ELEVEN: Why?

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: You frighten him. He knows you are more powerful than the others. And he also knows he can't control you. That's all he wants. Control. I saw all this happening. That's why I wanted to help you, but I only made things worse.

ELEVEN: Helping me...made Papa hurt you.

Flashback to #406. A Hawkins Lab testing room. Brenner watches as two orderlies tase the friendly orderly. Eleven watches through the window.

The friendly orderly nods.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: And it is why you must escape. Today. But they are watching us.

The friendly orderly glances up at the camera.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Closely.

Eleven turns and looks at the camera before turning back.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): If you want to make it out of here alive, you must do exactly as I say. Do you understand?

Eleven moves a chess piece, taking one of the friendly orderly's.

ELEVEN: Why do you still help?

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: Because I believe in you. It is time you are free from this hell.

The friendly orderly holds a key card out under the table, which Eleven takes.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Holly lays on her stomach, playing with her Lite Brite. The TV plays faintly. Lucas walks in and takes the plug out of the wall, the Lite Brite turning off.

HOLLY: Hey!

Dustin runs in and grabs the Lite Brite and runs away.

DUSTIN: I'm sorry.

Lucas grabs the Lite Brite pegs as he runs after Dustin.

LUCAS: Sorry, sorry, sorry.

Erica runs in and hands Holly a bag of Skittles before running after the boys.

ERICA: For your understanding.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

Dustin, Lucas, and Erica run in and kneel in front of Nancy's bed, hurriedly filling the board with pegs.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Steve, Nancy, Eddie, and Robin kneel in front of Nancy's bed, staring at the Lite Brite.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

The trio rush to fill the board with pegs.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Steve, Nancy, Eddie, and Robin kneel in front of Nancy's bed, staring at the Lite Brite.

STEVE: Come on. Come on.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

The trio rush to fill the board with pegs. They finally finish filling it.

DUSTIN: Okay, that's it. Go, go, go, go, go, go, go.

LUCAS: Yeah, okay.

Lucas grabs the cord and rushes to plug it into the wall. The board turns on.

DUSTIN: Okay, are you guys seeing this?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

DUSTIN (CONT’D)(O.S.): (faintly) ...seeing this?

Nancy puts her hand in the shimmers over the Lite Brite, the shimmers glow orange at her touch. She moves her hand around.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – NIGHT

The Lite Brite glows brightly. Dustin and Erica get excited.

ERICA: Holy shit!

Dustin laughs, hugging Erica.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Dustin’s laughter echoes.

DUSTIN (O.S.): (faintly) We’re not moving it...

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – NIGHT

DUSTIN (CONT’D): But we’re gonna unplug it. Stand by. Yank it.

Lucas pulls the plug.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

The shimmers dull.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – NIGHT

DUSTIN (CONT’D): Okay, try it now.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

DUSTIN (CONT’D)(O.S.): (faintly) Try it now.

NANCY: Okay. Um...uh...

Nancy puts her hand into the shimmers, which glow a bright orange at her touch.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – NIGHT

The pegs on the Lite Brite begin to glow. Dustin laughs.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Dustin’s laugh echoes as Nancy spells out ‘HI’ in the shimmers.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – NIGHT

ERICA: ‘H’.

DUSTIN: 'H'.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy draws the 'I'.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

The 'I' appears.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): 'Hi'!

ERICA: Hi!

LUCAS: Hey! Hi!

Dustin laughs.

DUSTIN: That worked!

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

The group gets excited.

EDDIE: Yes! Yes! Hi!

NANCY: Okay. Um...um...

Nancy starts to spell.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

The trio watch as letters appear.

DUSTIN, LUCAS, and ERICA (IN UNISON): 'S...T...U...'

ERICA: 'Stu...'

DUSTIN: 'Stu...pid? Stupid?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy continues to spell.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

DUSTIN, LUCAS, and ERICA (IN UNISON): '...C...K'. 'Stuck'.

DUSTIN: Stuck.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

EDDIE: Mmm-hmm, mmm-hmm.

STEVE: Yes.

ROBIN: Yes, we are.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

LUCAS: Okay, they...they're stuck in the Upside Down.

DUSTIN: Okay. Uh, you can't get back through Watergate?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

DUSTIN (CONT'D)(O.S.): (faintly) Watergate?

STEVE: What the hell's Watergate?

ROBIN: Cause it's in water, and it's a Gate.

STEVE: Oh.

EDDIE: That's cute.

NANCY: Oh.

STEVE: Right.

NANCY: Um, no. Uh, it's...

Nancy starts to spell.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

LUCAS: Is that a six?

ERICA: 'G'?

DUSTIN: No, 'G'.

LUCAS: Yeah.

DUSTIN, LUCAS, and ERICA (IN UNISON): 'U...A...R.'

DUSTIN: 'Guar'?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy continues to spell.

DUSTIN (CONT'D)(O.S.): (faintly) Guar...guar...

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

ERICA: 'Guard'.

DUSTIN: 'Guarded'.

LUCAS: 'Guarded'?

DUSTIN: 'Guarded'. Okay. Uh, Watergate's guarded.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Eddie claps.

STEVE: Perfect. Yes. Yes. Yes.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

DUSTIN: Okay, we think we have a theory that can help with that.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

EDDIE: Yes.

ROBIN: Genuis child.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – NIGHT

DUSTIN: We think Watergate isn’t the only Gate. That there’s a Gate at every murder site.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

DUSTIN (CONT’D)(O.S.): (faintly) ...murder site.

NANCY: Does anybody understand what he’s talking about?

STEVE: No.

EDDIE: No idea.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – NIGHT

A question mark appears on the board.

DUSTIN: Okay. Seriously? How many times do I have to be right on the money before you guys just trust me?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY’S ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

STEVE: Jesus Christ. This kid’s gotta get his ego in check.

EDDIE: It’s his tone, right?

STEVE: I know.

NANCY: Okay. So...so how far is your trailer?

EDDIE: Seven miles.

ROBIN: Nancy? Uh, I know your house here is, like, weirdly, creepily frozen in time and shit, but haven’t you always had bikes?

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Powell, Max, and Callahan walk out of a room and turn the hallway into the lounge room.

KAREN: So, anything?

POWELL: Nope. She’s sticking to her story.

Max puts her headphones on, and Running Up That Hill (Deal With God) by Kate Bush starts playing.

POWELL (CONT’D): They went to the lake for a night swim. Nancy showed up at some point...

Max looks up and sees Dustin standing at the bottom of the stairs, gesturing for her to walk towards him. She looks behind her at the cops and parents, then back at Dustin.

MAX: (mouths) I can’t.

DUSTIN: (mouths) Come on!

Max sighs and walks after Dustin, who goes back upstairs.

POWELL: ...same thing she said here on the couch. Pretty much all she told us. She stuck to her guns.

CALLAHAN: Honestly, shouldn't have gone with her first. She was, like, kinda mean.

POWELL: We'll find your daughter, Mrs. Wheeler. Don't worry.

CALLAHAN: One of these little brats is gonna squeal. I just know it. Where are they?

DANIELS: Upstairs. Moping.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – FIRST FLOOR LANDING – NIGHT

Callahan walks up the stairs.

CALLAHAN: Oh, little pigs. Oh, little pigs.

Callahan walks up to Nancy's door and taps on it.

CALLAHAN (CONT'D): Let Officer Callahan in.

INT. WHEELER HOUSE – NANCY'S ROOM – NIGHT

Callahan opens the door, expecting to find the Kids, but only finds the Lite Brite on Nancy's bed. There's a clattering outside, and Callahan looks to see the window open. He walks up to the window and looks outside, seeing the Kids wheeling their bikes up the driveway.

LUCAS: Let's go.

MAX: Be careful.

CALLAHAN: Hey! Excuse me! No, get back here!

EXT. WHEELER HOUSE – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

The Kids turn and see Callahan in the window, running faster.

DUSTIN: Let's go! Let's go!

Erica kneels down beside the front wheel of the front police car.

ERICA: I guess it's just a minor misdemeanour.

Erica stabs the tire.

CALLAHAN: Hey! No! No!

EXT. WHEELER HOUSE – FRONT YARD – NIGHT

The parents and cops run outside as the Kids ride away.

SUE: Lucas!

CLAUDIA: Dusty! Dusty!

SUE: Lucas, Erica! Get back here!

CLAUDIA: Dusty!

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – NIGHT

The Kids bike down the road, heading in the direction of the trailer park. Erica bikes on the left, then Lucas, then Dustin, and then Max. The camera pans down in front of them, making it look like they're upside down. It goes through the floor.

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – UPSIDE DOWN

The group bike down the road, heading in the direction of the trailer park. Nancy bikes under Erica, Steve bikes under Lucas, Robin bikes under Dustin, and Eddie bikes under Max. Unbeknownst to them, a Demobat perched atop a streetlight sees them as they pass. It screeches.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – ATTIC – UPSIDE DOWN

Vecna turns around.

INT. NINA FACILITY – NINA OBSERVATION ROOM

A machine measures Eleven's brainwaves.

INT. NINA

Eleven lays on her back.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Sixteen and Seventeen use their powers to push toy cars around the bend in the rainbow on the floor, crawling after them. Four walks past them, holding an abstract model in her hands. Thirteen and Eighteen sit at a table, making spinning tops spin with their powers. Twelve walks past them and grabs two boxes of coloured pencils before turning to walk back to where he came from. He walks past Fourteen, who plays with a large Plinko board. He walks past Nine and Fifteen, who play chess, before he sits back in his cubicle. Eleven sits in the cubicle next to him, colouring in. She turns and looks at the clock above the mirror, which shows that it's almost 3:00. The door opens, and Eleven turns to see Brenner walk in and look around. He spots Ten sitting on a couch shaking a magic eight ball, and he walks to sit next to the boy.

BRENNER: That's your favourite, isn't it?

Ten nods.

BRENNER (CONT'D): How are you feeling today?

TEN: Okay.

BRENNER: Are you up for some more lessons?

Ten shakes the magic eight ball and shows the result to Brenner.

BRENNER (CONT'D): Good.

Brenner stands up and takes Ten's hand, leading him to the door and out into the hallway. As soon as the door is closed, Eleven turns to look at the clock again. She walks up to the stern orderly.

ELEVEN: I feel dizzy.

STERN ORDERLY: Dizzy?

ELEVEN: Yes. And the light. The light is hurting my head.

The stern orderly sighs.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NINA GENERATED

The stern orderly walks down the hallway. Eleven walks behind him.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – INFIRMARY – NINA GENERATED

Two lays on a bed, an oxygen mask on his face. A nurse checks his blood pressure. The stern orderly opens the door.

STERN ORDERLY: Sorry to bother you.

NURSE: Everything all right?

STERN ORDERLY: Not sure.

The stern orderly points behind him.

STERN ORDERLY (CONT'D): She says she's still a little dizzy. Lights are hurting her.

NURSE: Hurting who?

The stern orderly turns around, only to find Eleven missing. His eyes widen.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NINA GENERATED

Eleven walks quickly down the hallway, looking around. She walks up to a double door, pulling the key card out of her shoe and sliding it into the reader. The reader blinks green, and she pushes the door open and steps through.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – STAIRWELL – NINA GENERATED

Eleven quickly walks down the stairs.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – BASEMENT – NINA GENERATED

Eleven quickly walks down the stairs. She walks into the basement, looking around. A pipe hisses steam right in front of her, making her step back, and she bumps into the friendly orderly. When she turns to look at him, he puts his finger to his lips.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: Quiet. Follow me.

The friendly orderly walks away. Eleven follows.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – BASEMENT – NINA GENERATED

Eleven and the friendly orderly kneel in front of a drain pipe. The friendly orderly pulls the cover off the drain pipe with a grunt.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Now, it's going to be a bit scary in here, but this, this will lead you out beyond the lab fence to the woods.

ELEVEN: But you are too big.

The friendly orderly turns and gently takes Eleven's hands.

FRIENDLY Orderly: I'm not going with you, Eleven. I meant what I said when I called this place a prison. And everyone here is a prisoner, not just you. Not just your brothers and sisters, but the guards, too, the nurses. Me. Here.

The friendly orderly turns his head to the side, moving his hair away to reveal a scar on his neck. He puts Eleven's fingers just below the scar, pushing on a capsule under the skin.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Can you feel it? Your Papa calls it Soteria.

The friendly orderly moves Eleven's hand away and looks at her.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): It weakens me. It tracks me. Even if there were another way out, he will find me. And if he finds me, he will find you.

ELEVEN: What if I make it go away? You helped me. I help you.

The friendly orderly smiles.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

The prisoners kneel in the snow, looking at the doors. The Demogorgon bangs on the doors, screeching.

DIMITRI: (in Russian) Stay calm. Stay close. Stick to the plan.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Murray and Joyce watch on with worry.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

An alarm starts blaring, signifying the start of the fight. Dimitri dives for the key, running with the other prisoners to the weapons cage. He unlocks and opens it, and the prisoners all grab weapons. Dimitri grabs a spear.

DIMITRI (CONT'D): American!

Dimitri tosses the spear to Hopper, who catches it.

WARDEN: (in Russian) I enjoy this part...when they still believe there is hope.

The prisoners all run to stand in the middle of the pit, brandishing their weapons and preparing to fight. Hopper stands in the corner, leaning against a pillar as he wraps the piece of fabric around the spear tip. Another alarm blares, and the doors slowly begin to open.

DIMITRI: (in Russian) Whatever comes out of there...hold your ground. HOLD YOUR GROUND!

The doors fully open, but there's no movement from inside, just pitch blackness. Hopper pants as he moves to join Dimitri, pouring liquor over the spear tip. He goes to pull the lighter out of his pocket.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Murray and Joyce look at each other. The warden seems displeased, turning and walking up to a guard.

WARDEN: (in Russian) What is the American doing?

GUARD: (in Russian) I don't know.

WARDEN: (in Russian) Find out!

The guard nods and runs away. Joyce gives Murray a pointed look, then nods slightly. Murray slowly reaches into his pocket, grabbing hold of the gun.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

From inside the doors, a screeching can be heard. The prisoners pant, holding tightly onto their weapons.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

The warden stands next to Murray again. Murray pulls his gun out of his pocket and pushes it into the warden's back.

MURRAY: (in Russian) You move so much as an inch, I'll kill you.

WARDEN: (in Russian) What?

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Dimitri nods at Hopper. Hopper flicks the lighter open, moving it below the spear and clicking it. It doesn't light. He tries again and again, the lighter only sparking but not lighting.

HOPPER: Oh, come on!

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

The warden looks at Murray with wide eyes.

WARDEN: (in Russian) What is this? Some kind of sick joke?

MURRAY: (in Russian) It's no joke. As I said... (in English) The Americans are very tricky.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Hopper desperately tries to light the lighter.

HOPPER: Come on. Come on. Come on.

DIMITRI: Tell me that's not out of fluid.

HOPPER: Come on! Come on!

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Joyce pulls the gag out of her mouth.

JOYCE: If you wanna live, then whatever this sick, twisted game this is, you're gonna stop it and you're gonna free our friend.

WARDEN: Then I'm afraid you're going to have to kill me. Because your friend is already dead.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Hopper desperately tries to light the lighter.

HOPPER: Come on! Come on! Oh, come on! Come on!

The Demogorgon's screeching gets louder as the camera zooms in behind the doors. The screen stays black, and all noise fades away. The Demogorgon suddenly leaps out from behind the doors, running towards the prisoners. It jumps over Dimitri and lands on a prisoner, knocking him to the ground before biting his head. The prisoners scream. The Demogorgon runs around, slashing at the prisoners. It stabs its claws into a prisoner's back, picking him up and hitting him against the roof. It drops the prisoner to the ground, a pipe falling onto him, before it turns around and screeches. Many of the prisoners start to back away to the other end of the pit.

DIMITRI: (in Russian) WHAT ARE YOU DOING? STAY TOGETHER YOU FOOLS!

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Murray pushes the gun further into the warden's back.

MURRAY: (in Russian) Order your men to shoot it. To kill it!

WARDEN: (in Russian) If I give that order, I will be shot tomorrow and die a traitor. You want to kill me, do it!

Murray laughs, grabbing the warden's arm and turning him around. He pushes the warden towards the door, gun to his back. Joyce follows. Yuri looks between them and the pit a few times before following as well.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Hopper desperately tries to light the lighter.

HOPPER: Come on! Come on! Come on!

The lighter finally lights, and a flame licks up the fabric and blazes from the spear tip.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Ah! Ah!

Dimitri yells as he runs at the Demogorgon, raising his weapon high to bring it down. The Demogorgon swipes its hand and breaks the weapon. Dimitri backs away as it walks towards him. Hopper jumps in front of him, holding out the flaming spear. The Demogorgon cowers.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Get back! Get back!

The Demogorgon screeches.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Get the hell back!

The Demogorgon looks like it wants to attack but is scared of the fire.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Get back! Get back!

The Demogorgon runs to the side, running up the wall and attacking a prisoner that attempts to climb the cage outside the staircase. The prisoner yells as he lands on the ground, before the Demogorgon lands on top of him and bites his head.

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT CONTROL ROOM – NIGHT

Murray pushes the warden inside with his arm around his neck and his gun pointed at his head. A guard aims his gun up in defence.

MURRAY: (in Russian) I'll kill him! I'LL KILL HIM! TOSS YOUR GUN! OVER TO ME!

The guard holds his hands up as he sets his gun down on the floor, sliding it towards Murray. Joyce picks it up, aiming it at the guards. Murray walks up to the guard sitting at the control panel.

MURRAY (CONT'D): (in Russian) You, open all the doors below. You understand? OPEN THE DOORS.

WARDEN: (in Russian) You open all the doors, that monster will get loose in this prison, and we are all dead.

MURRAY: (in Russian) I will pull this trigger! OPEN THE DOORS!

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Dimitri and Hopper run backwards towards the doors. The Demogorgon snarls. Dimitri picks up a discarded pickaxe and starts trying to pull at the doors to open them. Hopper stands behind him, holding the flaming spear out.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

A guard aims at Dimitri and Hopper. Ivan hits his gun barrel upwards.

IVAN: (in Russian) They would need a battering ram to open that door. Let the monster feed.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Dimitri strains as he tries to open the doors. The Demogorgon continues to attack and feed on the other prisoners.

MURRAY (O.S.): (in Russian) You think I'm playing?

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT CONTROL ROOM – NIGHT

MURRAY (CONT'D): (in Russian) You think I won't do it? OPEN THE DOOR!

GUARD: (in Russian) If I open those doors, I condemn not just myself, but all of my comrades to death. In good conscience, I cannot. I will not.

Murray chuckles slightly.

MURRAY: I gotta hand it to you commies. You're committed.

Murray turns the warden slightly and hits him in the back with the butt of the gun. He then hits the guard across the face, kicking the other guard who tries to intervene. He hits the first guard again, then kicks the second guard again, knocking them all out.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

A prisoner crawls along the ground as he tries to get away from the Demogorgon. The Demogorgon grabs him by the leg, dragging him backwards and hitting him against some cells before it starts eating him. It then turns its attention to Hopper and Dimitri, its only prey left. It runs towards them, but is deterred by the flaming spear.

HOPPER: Stay back! Back! Back! Get back!

Hopper stabs the spear towards the Demogorgon.

HOPPER (CONT'D): Get away!

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT CONTROL ROOM – NIGHT

Joyce runs up to Murray as he sits down at the control panel. He stares at the control panel, which buzzes, not sure what buttons to press.

MURRAY: Okay. Okay. Okay. Okay.

JOYCE: What are you doing?

MURRAY: I have no idea. There's a lot of buttons here. I can't see. I need my glasses. Gimme a second.

Murray gets up and runs towards Yuri, trying to take his glasses back. Yuri turns his head away.

MURRAY (CONT'D): Come here. No.

Murray straightens Yuri's head towards him and takes his glasses.

MURRAY (CONT'D): Give me. Mine!

Murray runs back to the control panel.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Hopper stabs and waves the spear at the Demogorgon. It swipes towards him, almost getting him, before he swings the spear at it again. The Demogorgon screeches.

HOPPER: Running out of time here!

DIMITRI: I'm trying!

The handle of the pickaxe breaks, leaving the head between the doors.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – UPPER LANDING AROUND DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Joyce starts pressing buttons and turning knobs.

MURRAY: No, no, no. Joyce. Joyce, we have no idea what these buttons do. You can't just press away like that.

Joyce presses a big red button.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

The device that electrifies the barbed wire around the pit turns off. Hopper stabs towards the Demogorgon, the flame getting smaller by the second.

HOPPER: Get back! Back! Get back!

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT CONTROL ROOM – NIGHT

MURRAY: Joyce, just relax. Come on.

Joyce presses a button.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

The doors start opening.

DIMITRI: American!

Hopper turns to see the doors opening. He starts backing towards them, keeping the spear trained at the Demogorgon. Dimitri slips through the doors once they're open enough for him.

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT CONTROL ROOM – NIGHT

A monitor showing the Demogorgon pit shows Hopper and Dimitri backing into the room.

MURRAY: That did it! That did it!

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON ROOM – NIGHT

Dimitri runs through the doors and to the other end, only to find another door blocking their path. He turns and puts his back against the door.

EXT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT – NIGHT

Hopper starts pushing his way through the doors as the Demogorgon advances on him.

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON PIT CONTROL ROOM – NIGHT

MURRAY (CONT'D): Close it, Joyce. Close it!

Joyce quickly presses the button again.

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – DEMOGORGON ROOM – NIGHT

The doors start to close with Hopper inside. The Demogorgon stands outside the door, screeching. Hopper stabs the spear towards it as long as he can before the flame dies out completely. The Demogorgon shoves its hands between the gap in the door, shrieking as it tries to pry the doors open. As soon as the doors are open enough, it shoves its head in and screeches. Hopper throws the spear like a javelin into the Demogorgon's mouth, sending it stumbling backwards as it tries to pull the spear out. It manages to snap half of the spear away, the rest remaining in its mouth. The last thing Hopper and Dimitri see of the Demogorgon before the doors close is it screeching towards the sky, half of the spear sticking out of its mouth. Inside the Demogorgon room, both men pant. Hopper seems to realise that they're trapped and bangs on the door.

DIMITRI: For a second, I thought we had your miracle.

Dimitri leans on the bars beside the doors.

DIMITRI (CONT'D): But out of one prison into another.

An alarm outside the door blare, and the men turn towards them. The door slowly start to open, and Hopper holds his fists up, preparing to fight whoever is on the other side.

INT. KAMCHATKA PRISON – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Hopper steps through the door, and time seems to slow. He stares at Joyce as she stands in the doorway, Murray and Yuri a short distance behind her. Joyce runs up to Hopper and hugs him, crying. Hopper stands still for a moment, almost as if he can't believe she's really there. He looks down at her, and she moves her head to look at him. She hugs him again, and this time he hugs her back, holding her tightly. He smiles.

EXT. HAWKINS ROAD – UPSIDE DOWN

Eddie, Steve, Robin, and Nancy bike along the road in the direction of the trailer park. They see the Creel house off in the distance, a horde of Demobats flying above it.

EXT. FOREST HILLS TRAILER PARK – UPSIDE DOWN

The group turn the corner into the trailer park and start biking towards the Munson trailer. Eddie points at the trailer as they near it.

EDDIE: Right here.

EXT. MUNSON TRAILER – UPSIDE DOWN

They pull up outside the trailer and let the bikes fall on their sides before walking up to the trailer.

ROBIN: That's gotta be a Guinness World Record. Most miles travelled interdimensionally.

STEVE: Just inhaled a bunch of that crap.

Steve coughs.

STEVE (CONT'D): It's stuck in my throat.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

The group walks in to find that Dustin's theory was right. A glowing red Gate has opened in the roof, vines stretching out from it.

STEVE (CONT'D): Goddamn.

EDDIE: This is where Chrissy died. Like, right where she died.

ROBIN: I think there's something in there.

Something appears over the Gate, then slowly starts pushing in the middle.

EDDIE: What the hell is that?

The thing lifts up. After a few moments, it stabs through the membrane, making them all yell and jump back. The stick moves around, breaking the membrane apart, making bits of it fall to the ground. Soon the stick lifts up and disappears. Everyone pants, unsure. Steve slowly walks forward to look through the Gate, the others slowly following his lead.

STEVE: No way.

The group looks up to see Dustin, Lucas, Erica, and Max looking up at them from the other side, smiling. Dustin laughs and waves, the others waving as well.

DUSTIN: Hi there.

STEVE: Hi.

NANCY and ROBIN (IN UNISON): Hi.

Everyone laughs and chuckles, shocked but relieved.

ROBIN: Holy shit, this is trippy.

DUSTIN: Bada-bada-boom!

INT. HAWKINS LAB – BASEMENT – NINA GENERATED

The friendly orderly sits against a pillar. Eleven stands in front of him.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: Remember, you can't hurt me more than they already have.

The friendly orderly fidgets with his collar to move it aside. He puts a strip of fabric in his mouth, biting down before tilting his head to the side and moving his hair away. Eleven moves beside him and holds her hand out, using her powers to try and pull the pill out of his neck. The lights flicker, and the friendly orderly breathes heavily. The pill becomes more and more pronounced, until finally the flesh rips and it flies out of his neck, with Eleven sending it across the room. The friendly orderly looks at it, pulling the fabric out of his mouth as he walks up to the pill.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Huh.

Eleven pants. The friendly orderly bends down and picks the pill up, holding it up to look at it. He doesn't look friendly anymore.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Who knew something so small could cause so much trouble?

The friendly orderly looks at Eleven, his face kind again.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Thank you.

Eleven nods. She wipes the blood away from her nose. The basement doors suddenly open, and Blackmon and Thatcher run in.

GUARD: There they are! Stop!

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: Run!

GUARD: Freeze!

The friendly orderly grabs Eleven's hand and starts pulling her through the basement. Blackmon and Thatcher chase them.

GUARD (CONT'D): Stop!

The friendly orderly and Eleven run up the stairs.

GUARD (CONT'D): Lock it down! Lock it down!

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NINA GENERATED

The friendly orderly and Eleven run out of the basement and down the hallway. They skid to a stop when Miller, Selee, and another guard round the corner in front of them.

MILLER: Hey! Where do you think you're going?

Blackmon and Thatcher run out of the basement, standing behind Eleven and the friendly orderly to block their path. They all turn their tasers on.

MILLER (CONT'D): Against the wall. Both of you. Now.

Eleven looks at the friendly orderly, who looks at her. She moves to stand against the wall, but he grabs her arm to stop her.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: No. You don't have to be afraid of them, Eleven.

The friendly orderly looks at Miller.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Not anymore.

MILLER: Take em.

The guards start walking towards the duo. The friendly orderly turns around and thrusts his hand out, sending Blackmon and Thatcher flying backwards. They hit the wall behind them, cracking it, before they fall to the ground. The friendly orderly turns around and thrusts his hand up, sending one of the guards flying upwards into the ceiling and then back to the floor. He thrusts his hand out at Selee, sending him flying into the wall, cracking it, before he drops to the ground. Miller holds his hands out, shaking and looking scared. The friendly orderly stares at him before moving his head, snapping Miller's neck, sending his lifeless body to the ground. Eleven pants, looking at the friendly orderly.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: Come.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – SUPPLY CLOSET – NINA GENERATED

The friendly orderly grabs Eleven's hand and pulls her into a nearby supply closet, shutting the door behind them.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Wait here. Don't move. I'm going to find us a way out.

The friendly orderly moves to leave but Eleven stops him.

ELEVEN: Wait. How did you-

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: Like I said, we're alike, you and I.

The friendly orderly pulls his sleeve back, revealing a '001' tattoo on his wrist. Eleven stares at it, then brings her own arm up to hold her '011' tattoo next to it. She looks up at him. He smiles and turns around, leaving the room and closing the door behind him.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Dustin and Erica work to tie sheets together in a rope. Max and Lucas work together to drag Eddie's mattress out of his room and into the lounge room, turning and dropping it under the Gate.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

The camera pans down to the other quad in the UD, who look up through the Gate.

EDDIE: Those stains are, uh...

Robin gives Eddie side-eye. He turns to see if anyone is looking at him funny before looking back up.

EDDIE (CONT'D): I dunno what those stains are.

ROBIN: Mmm.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Dustin and Erica pick up the sheets and walk towards Max and Lucas. Dustin stands on the mattress, holding the sheets.

DUSTIN: Not quite sure how these physics are gonna work. But, uh...here goes nothing.

Dustin balls the sheets up and tosses one end up into the ceiling.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

The sheets fall through the ceiling and land on the ground.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Dustin grabs hold of his end of the sheets.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): There we go. And if my theory is correct...

Dustin lets go of the sheets, which stay hanging from the ceiling.

DUSTIN (CONT'D): Huh. Abracadabra.

MAX: Holy shit.

DUSTIN: All right, pull on it! See if it holds!

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Robin looks at Steve, who nods. Robin grabs the sheets and pulls, using her full body weight. The sheets don't budge.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Dustin laughs.

ERICA: This is the craziest shit I've ever seen in my life. And I've seen some crazy shit.

Dustin and Erica high five.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Robin grabs hold of the sheets, ready to climb.

ROBIN: Guess I'm the guinea pig.

Robin starts climbing, grunting from the effort.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

DUSTIN: All right, let's clear the landing pad.

They all move off the mattress and take a few steps back.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Robin grunts with effort as she nears the ceiling.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

As soon as Robin's upper body is through the Gate, her sense of gravity changes and she starts falling.

ROBIN: Oh my God!

Robin lands on the mattress with a yell. She sits up, grinning and panting.

ROBIN (CONT'D): Oh, thank God. That was fun.

Dustin helps Robin up.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Eddie, Nancy, and Steve all look at each other. None of them make a move for the sheets.

EDDIE: All right, I guess I'll go.

Eddie steps up and grabs hold of the sheets.

EDDIE (CONT'D): All right.

Eddie starts climbing.

STEVE: Easy, easy.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

As soon as Eddie's upper body is through the ceiling, his sense of gravity shifts and he falls, landing on the mattress with a grunt. He sits up.

EDDIE: That...was fun. Shit.

Dustin helps Eddie up.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Steve and Nancy chuckle.

STEVE: See you on the other side.

NANCY: On the other side.

Nancy grabs hold of the sheets and starts climbing.

STEVE: Nice.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

As soon as Nancy's upper body is through the ceiling, her sense of gravity shifts and she starts falling.

INT./EXT. NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy falls through the Void, screaming.

INT. HARRINGTON BACK YARD – POOL – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy lands hard on her back in the Harrington pool, which is covered in vines. She grunts and pants as she rolls over and pushes herself up. That's when she realises she's not in the trailer anymore. She looks around, holding her elbow.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – UPSIDE DOWN

Nancy is standing completely still, her eyelids fluttering. Steve stands in front of her, looking worried.

STEVE (CONT'D): Nancy.

Steve gently shakes Nancy.

STEVE (CONT'D): Hey! Hey! Stay with me. Nancy! Hey!

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Eddie, Robin, Dustin, Max, Lucas, and Erica hear Steve's yelling and look through the Gate.

STEVE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Nancy, wake up. Wake up! Nancy!

MAX: Vecna.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – ATTIC – UPSIDE DOWN

Vecna hangs suspended by vines.

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Nancy looks around, scared. She catches sight of something on the other side of the pool and slowly walks towards it. As she gets close enough, she realises it's Barb's body. A slug slides out of Barb's mouth. Nancy gasps in horror and backs away.

VECNA (O.S.): Do you remember what you did, Nancy?

Flashback to #102. The Harrington pool. The Demogorgon screeches at Nancy. She screams.

Flashback to #102. Steve's room. Steve and Nancy start making out.

VECNA (CONT'D)(O.S.): Or have you already forgotten?

Flashback to #103. The Harrington pool in the Upside Down. Barb desperately tries to climb out of the pool.

Flashback to #103. Steve's room. Steve and Nancy make out.

VECNA (CONT'D)(O.S.): When I kill someone...

Flashback to #103. The Harrington pool in the Upside Down. Barb reaches the top of the ladder and tries to pull herself out.

Flashback to #103. Steve's room. Steve and Nancy make out.

Flashback to #103. The Harrington pool in the Upside Down. Barb reaches the top of the ladder and tries to pull herself out. She screams.

VECNA (CONT'D)(O.S.): I never forget.

Flashback to #103. Steve's room. Steve and Nancy make out.

FLASHBACK – INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Barb reaches the top of the ladder and tries to pull herself out.

BARB: Nancy!

INT. MUNSON TRAILER – LOUNGE ROOM – NIGHT

Blood starts to pour in from the drains, seeping towards Nancy.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – SUPPLY CLOSET – NINA GENERATED

Eleven paces the room. An alarm starts wailing in the distance, and she looks at the door with a gasp.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NINA GENERATED

Eleven steps out of the supply closet, looking around. Miller's walkie talkie lays beside him, garbled chatter and staticky screaming coming from it. Eleven walks over and kneels beside him, picking up the walkie talkie and turning the volume up slightly. The staticky screaming continues. She puts the walkie talkie down and walks away, the screaming continuing.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – HALLWAY – NINA GENERATED

Eleven opens a door and walks into the hallway to find the lights flickering. She sees blood on the doorway of a nearby room and stands in the doorway, looking inside. Ten and Brenner lay on the ground, with Ten dead and Brenner unconscious. Panting, Eleven slowly turns around. The walls are smeared with blood, with some walls being cracked from the impact of someone being thrown against them. The bodies of orderlies and guards are scattered around. Eleven starts walking down the hallway. She looks in a room and sees a child on the bed inside, their body bloody and mangled. She gasps, the visual upsetting her, before she keeps walking. In another room it's the same story, with a child on the floor, their body bloody and mangled. A scream echoes as Eleven holds back sobs, continuing through the hallway to find the other children killed in their rooms, their bodies all bloody and mangled. She turns the corner with the Rainbow Room down the end, and screams echo from behind the doors. She starts walking towards the doors, then starts running.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven bursts into the room, panting. She looks around in horror at the dead children, their bodies bloody and mangled. Blood is speared on the walls and pools on the floor around the children. She then catches sight of One and Two in the corner of the room. Two is against the wall in the air, his body straining as he tries to fight One's power. His eyes are white, and blood drips from them. One stands in front of him, holding his arm out as he tries to kill Two. His uniform is spattered with blood. He wins out, and Two's body falls to the floor. Eleven pants, tears in her eyes. The lights stop flickering, and One seethes. He wipes the blood away from under his nose, then turns his head slightly.

ONE: I asked you to wait.

Eleven turns and runs to the doors, pulling them open. One turns around and moves his head, and the doors close. Eleven pulls on them a few times, but turns around when she realises it's no use. She looks scared. One walks towards her. In the mirror, we see Young Eleven reflected. She whimpers as he walks up to her, standing over her and tilting her chin up to make her look at him.

ONE (CONT'D): Why do you cry for them, Eleven? After everything they did to you? Hmm? You think you need them, but you don't. You don't. Oh, but I know you're just scared.

The camera pulls out of the mirror and onto One and present Eleven. He wipes her tears away.

ONE (CONT'D): I was scared once too.

Eleven turns her head away from his touch.

ONE (CONT'D): I know what it's like to be different. To be alone in this world.

INT./EXT. VECNA'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy pulls herself out of the Harrington pool to find herself in the red landscape of Vecna's mind, the broken Creel house around her. A clock starts ticking, and suddenly she's at the top of the broken staircase. There's a distant wailing. Nancy slowly walks down the stairs, looking around. She catches sight of the grandfather clock floating in the air nearby.

VECNA: I see you've been looking for me, Nancy. You were so close. So close to the truth. How was old, blind, dumb Victor? Did he miss me? I've been meaning to check back in, but I've been busy.

Nancy reaches the bottom of the stairs. She sees Fred's mangled body intertwined in a stalagmite and steps back in horror.

VECNA (CONT'D): So very busy.

Nancy catches sight of the Creel house door.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Young Victor, Virginia, Alice, and Henry walk inside.

YOUNG VICTOR: What'd I tell ya?

VIRGINIA: Wow.

ALICE: This is amazing. It looks like a fairy tale.

Nancy watches as Alice walks past her to head up the stairs.

ALICE (CONT'D): A dream.

Alice starts running up the stairs. Nancy watches her.

VIRGINIA: Alice, no running.

ALICE: It's so big!

Nancy looks back at Young Victor, Virginia, and Henry. Young Victor and Virginia look happy, excited to start a new chapter in their life. Henry looks neutral, not quite sad but not happy either.

YOUNG VICTOR: This is nice.

VIRGINIA: Yeah.

YOUNG VICTOR: Yeah.

ONE (O.S.): Like you, I didn't fit in with the other children. Something was wrong with me. All the teachers and the doctors said I was...

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): 'Broken', they said.

One starts slowly walking towards the mirror, looking at all the children he killed.

ONE (CONT'D): My parents thought a change in scenery, a fresh start in Hawkins, might just cure me. It was absurd. As if the world would be any different here.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – HALLWAY – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Henry walks through the house, and Nancy follows him. Nancy stops when she sees a light flickering around a corner, and Henry keeps walking.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): But then...

INT. CREEL HOUSE – BATHROOM – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy walks towards in the direction of the flickering light to find it belonging to the bathroom. Henry walks in and kneels beside the floor vent.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): To my surprise, our new home provided a discovery.

Henry pulls the vent cover off.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): And a newfound sense of purpose.

Henry puts his hand inside the vent, which has cobwebs inside. He puts his hand against a web, wanting the spider inside to climb on.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): I found a nest of black widows living inside a vent.

The black widow crawls onto Henry's hand.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Most people fear spiders.

Henry pulls his hand out of the vent and holds it in front of him, watching as the black widow crawls all over his hand.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): They detest them. And yet, I found them endlessly fascinating. More than that, I found a great comfort in them.

Another Henry runs past Nancy, making her turn around.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): A kinship.

Nancy walks in the direction that Henry went, watching him walk up the small stairs and turn into the attic.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Like me...

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): They are solitary creatures. And deeply misunderstood. They...

INT. CREEL HOUSE – ATTIC – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy walks into the attic to find Henry sitting inside, a truck in front of him. On the trunk sit jars of spiders, as well as candles to light the area. Henry draws pictures of the spiders in a notebook.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Are gods of our world. The most important of all predators. They immobilise and feed on the weak, bringing balance and order to an unstable ecosystem.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

One turns around.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): But the human world was disrupting this harmony. You see, humans are a unique type of pest, multiplying and poisoning our world, all while enforcing a structure of their own. A deeply unnatural structure.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy watches Henry as he stares at the grandfather clock.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Where others saw order, I saw a straightjacket. A cruel, oppressive world dictated by made-up rules. Seconds, minutes...

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): Hours, days, weeks, months, years, decades. Each life a faded, lesser copy of the one before. Wake up, eat, work, sleep, reproduce, and die.

One slowly starts walking towards Eleven.

ONE (CONT'D): Everyone is just waiting. Waiting for it all to be over. All while performing in a silly, terrible play, day after day.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy watches Henry as he stares at the grandfather clock.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): I could not do that. I could not close off my mind and join in the madness.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): I could not pretend. And I realised I didn't have to.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Henry closes his eyes, and the clock starts to turn backwards. Nancy's eyes widen.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): I could make my own rules. I could restore balance to a broken world. A predator...but for good.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

There's a panicked chittering.

EXT. CREEL HOUSE – FRONT PARK – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy turns around, and suddenly she's outside the Creel house. A rabbit squeals as it tries to run away, its back leg tied to a stick. Henry stands over it.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): As I practiced, I realised I could do more than I possibly imagined.

EXT. CREEL HOUSE – FRONT PARK – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Henry kneels behind the rabbit and holds his hand out. The rabbit falls onto its side, kicking and squealing in pain.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): I could reach into others, into their minds, their memories.

Nancy watches in horror as the rabbit's squealing turns into shrieks, its bones breaking.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

One turns and starts slowly walking towards the mirror, looking around at the children he killed.

FLSHBCK – EXT. CREEL HOUSE – DAY

Young Victor, Virginia, Alice, and Henry stand outside the house, looking at it with smiles.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): *They presented themselves...*

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): As good, normal people. But like everything else in this world, it was all a lie. A terrible lie. They had done things, Eleven. Such awful things.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy runs in the door and shuts it behind her, panting. She hears a baby wailing, and looks into the lounge room to see Young Victor sitting in an armchair, staring at the fireplace. In the fireplace sits a burning cradle, a baby screaming inside.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): I showed them who they really were. I held up a mirror.

FLSHBCK – INT. CREEL HOUSE – ATTIC – DAY

Henry sits in front of his spider trunk, eyes closed. His eyes move side to side under his eyelids.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): *My naïve father believed it was a demon cursing them for their sins. But my mother somehow knew.*

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy hears music and turns around, walking towards the source of the music.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Knew it was I who was holding up that mirror, and she despised me for it. She called a doctor, an expert.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – DINING ROOM – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Nancy rounds the corner to find the Creel family in the dining room, all of them looking at the radio on the mantle as it plays Dream A Little Dream Of Me by Ella Fitzgerald. Young Victor stands up and walks towards it.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): She wanted him to lock me away, to fix me, even though it wasn't I who was broken. It was them.

Henry looks at Virginia.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): And so she left me with no choice. No choice but to act.

Henry closes his eyes. The lights start flickering.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): To break free.

Virginia's body flies into the air. Her eyes bleed as her bones break. Her eyes are pulled into the back of her head, and she falls onto the table. Henry wipes his nose.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): With each life I took, I grew stronger.

Young Victor grabs Henry and pulls him away from the table.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): More powerful.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Alice's body lies dead on the ground, her limbs broken. Young Victor stands facing the door, in a trance. Nancy watches Henry as he stands behind Young Victor, his eyes closed and his nose bleeding.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): They were becoming a part of me. But I was still a child. And I did not yet know my limits. And it nearly killed me.

Henry passes out and falls to the ground. Young Victor turns around and sees his children on the ground. He kneels beside Henry and picks him up, cradling his body.

FLSHBCK – INT. CREEL HOUSE – FOYER – NIGHT

Young Victor is pushed against a wall and handcuffed.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): He was arrested, blamed for the murder of my sister and mother, just as I had planned.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): But I was far from free.

FLSHBCK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – TESTING ROOM – NIGHT

Henry lies on a bed, cords coming out of his body.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): I woke up from my coma only to find myself placed in the care of a doctor, the very doctor I had hoped to escape.

Henry opens his eyes to see Brenner walking towards him.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): Dr. Martin Brenner. Papa.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

One walks towards Eleven and stands in front of her.

ONE (CONT'D): But the truth...the truth is he did not just want to study me. He wanted more. He wanted control.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – TESTING ROOM – NANCY'S MINDSCAPE

Henry is strapped into a chair. Nancy watches as Brenner tattoos '001' onto his arm.

ONE (CONT'D)(O.S.): When Papa finally realised he could not control me, he tried to recreate me. He began a program. And soon, others were born.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

ONE (CONT'D): You were born. And I am so glad you were, Eleven. So very glad.

Eleven looks around at the dead children. One looks at them.

ONE (CONT'D): They're not gone, Eleven.

One looks at Eleven.

ONE (CONT'D): They're still with me. In here.

One taps his temple.

ELEVEN: You tricked me.

ONE: Tricked you? No, I saved you. You are a prisoner here, just like me. To your papa, you are nothing more than an animal, a monster, a lab rat to be tamed. But the truth, Eleven, the truth is just the opposite. You are better than they are.

Eleven looks at the bodies of the dead children and almost starts crying.

ONE (CONT'D): Superior. That is why you frighten him. If you come with me, for the first time in your life, you will be free. Imagine what we could do together. We could reshape the world, remake it however we see fit. Join me.

Eleven looks at One.

ELEVEN: No.

Confusion crosses One's face. Eleven thrusts her hand out and he goes flying across the room, hitting the mirror before falling to the ground. He pants as he pushes himself up, then looks at Eleven. He looks furious. She wipes her nose. One stands up. They start walking towards each other, stopping a few metres away. They thrust their hands out at the other, both trying to use their powers to defeat the other. The lights around them flicker violently. Eleven's slippers squeak as she's pushed backwards. Her feet almost leave the floor, but she pushes them down with a grunt, panting.

FLASHBACK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven and the friendly orderly sit in front of the Plinko board.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY: He had found his strength in a memory from his past.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven pants with effort.

FRIENDLY Orderly (CONT'D)(O.S.): Something that made him sad. But also angry.

Flashback to #406. The Rainbow Room. Eleven screams as Two, Three, Four, and Five use their powers to throw her around.

FLASHBACK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven and the friendly orderly sit in front of the Plinko board.

FRIENDLY ORDERLY (CONT'D): Do you maybe have a memory like that?

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven pants with effort.

FLASHBACK – INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – DAY

Guards drag Terry away.

TERRY: No! No! Jane!

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Eleven pants with effort.

Flashback to #407. A Hawkins Lab hallway. Eleven walks through the hallway, seeing the bloody and mangled bodies of her fellow children in their rooms.

Eleven pants with effort.

Flashback to #407. A Hawkins Lab hallway. Eleven walks through the hallway, seeing the bloody and mangled bodies of her fellow children in their rooms.

Flashback to #401. The Rainbow Room. Dead children lie around the room. Blood is spattered on the walls and floor.

Eleven pants with effort.

Flashback to #401. The Rainbow Room. Dead children lie around the room. Blood is spattered on the walls and floor.

One wins out, sending Eleven flying backwards into the doors with a yell. She lands on the ground with a grunt, whimpering. The lights stop flickering. One moves his head, and Eleven is pulled away from the door. He moves his head and she's dragged around the room, blood getting on her hospital gown. Then she's pulled towards him.

ELEVEN: No! No!

Eleven whimpers as she's lifted in the air, screaming. The lights start flickering as One moves his hand, which turns Eleven around to face him. She whimpers.

ONE: It wasn't supposed to end like this.

One stretches his hand out, and Eleven's bones slowly start to crack. She whimpers and struggles. Eleven wails in pain as blood drips from her eyes.

Cut to black.

Orange sparks flash around in the black. An orange light appears and disappears. A medical monitor can be heard beeping, then a baby starts crying. Brenner flashes onto screen, then disappears. A nurse flashes onto screen, then disappears. The orange light grows brighter, filling the screen.

Terry's face comes into focus. She smiles.

TERRY: Jane.

Terry's face disappears. Her hand comes into focus, stretching out.

TERRY (CONT'D): I love you.

Terry's hand disappears. The light continues, until it turns grey and Eleven comes into focus. She slowly tilts her head down to look at One, who seems slightly surprised. She turns her hands, and One shakes as he tries hard.

TERRY (CONT'D)(O.S.): Jane.

Eleven trusts her hands out with a yell, sending One flying backwards. He smashes through the mirror and lands against the wall of the observation room, the wall cracking on impact. He's held there. Eleven lands on her knees, arms out.

INT. NINA

Lights flash as electricity crackles.

INT. NINA FACILITY – NINA OBSERVATION ROOM

The lights all flicker, and monitors start beeping wilding. Owens turns to look at the EKG reader, which beeps as it spits out Eleven's brainwaves.

BRENNER: It's happening.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

One struggles as he's pinned against the wall in the observation room. Eleven pants, only it isn't present Eleven anymore: it's Young Eleven. She looks up at him and the lights turn off. She stands up and walks towards him, standing right before the mirror. He struggles. Young Eleven thrusts her hand out with a yell, and One screams as his body starts to disintegrate. Young Eleven screams, and he wails.

Cut to black.

INT. HAWKINS LAB – RAINBOW ROOM – NINA GENERATED

Young Eleven pants, staring at the Gate in front of her. It glows red, vines spreading out of it. The vines slither back inside the Gate, the wall seeming to stitch itself back up.

INT./EXT. EARLY UPSIDE DOWN

The camera travels through the Gate and into the Upside Down, which looks nothing like Hawkins. One yells as he flies through the air, turning over and over. Lightning strikes him over and over again, burning his clothes and charring his skin. He yells in pain.

INT. CREEL HOUSE – ATTIC – UPSIDE DOWN

Vecha hangs suspended by vines, his eyes closed. The camera slowly travels down to his wrist, and vines move away to reveal a '001' tattoo.

Cut to black.

END OF EPISODE.